(b) if so, whether the VIP security expenditure has increased in the past few years and a Committee has been reconstituted to recommend scaling down of security cover to VIPs; and

(c) if so, the time by when Committee is likely to give its recommendation to Government and further action Government is likely to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The security arrangements for all VIPs/central protectees are reviewed periodically in two high level committees in MHA.

(b) and (c) The expenditure incurred on providing security to VIPs/central protectees cannot be estimated as different State Governments/UT Administrations and their agencies are involved in making security arrangements for them. No such committee has been constituted/reconstituted for this purpose.

Danger of attack by Lashkar-e-Taiba

2015. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that intelligence agencies of the country have warned Ministry of Home Affairs about the danger of terrorist attack like Mumbai attack by taskhar-e-Taiba, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what action Government proposes to protect the life and property of Indian common people; and

(d) whether any fresh Instruction has been given to security agencies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) As per available information, there are indications that Pakistan/PoK based terrorist groups including the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) are active in organizing acts of terror. The Government has been, on a continuing basis, reviewing the security arrangements in the light of the emerging challenges, including terrorist incidents, and a number of significant steps have been taken to enhance the level of preparedness to counter terrorist incidents, to strengthen the intelligence and security apparatus, as well as the legislative and investigative provisions to counter terrorism.

Review of anti-sodomy law

2016. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN:
SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to review anti-sodomy law (Sec. 377, IPC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government would consider fears of all sections of the society including the leading religious outfits/groups in the country before reviewing the law;

(e) whether the Delhi High Court has also given verdict on legality of Section 377 of IPC;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) by when Government proposes to take a review of the law in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (g) Delhi High Court in its recent judgment on the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 7455 of 2001 filed by an NGO, has, inter alia, ruled that Section 377 of IPC, insofar as, it criminalizes consensual sexual acts of adults in private, is violative of Articles 21, 14 and 15 of the Constitution. The order of the Delhi High Court has been challenged in the Supreme Court of India by Suresh Kumar Kaushal & another. As such, the matter is sub-judice.

Relaxing the license regime for protected/restricted areas

2017. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is cognizant of long standing demand of relaxing the license regime for protected/restricted areas to promote tourism;

(b) if so, to what extent such restrictions will be relaxed; and

(c) whether such relaxation is likely to be used by insurgent groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) There have been demands from some State Governments/Union Territories to relax the Protected Area/Restricted Area regime in their respective States/UTs, with a view to promote tourism. The proposals received from the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations are examined in detail in consultation with concerned State Govts./UTs and Ministries/Departments and Agencies, with due emphasis on security concerns.

Only those recommendations for relaxation in PAP/RAP regime are accepted wherein it is ensured that the concerned State Govt./UT has the requisite infrastructure and capability in place to effectively monitor and regulate the relaxation granted without compromising on security concerns.

Action Plan-II to deal with security challenges

2018. SHRI N.K. SINGH:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently announced Action Plan-II to deal with the security challenge facing the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;